

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

Paragraph beginning at page 4, line 10, has been amended as follows:

Referring to Figures 1-3, there is shown, in Figure 1, a sport shoe 10 having a flexible top portion 11 mounted on top of the shoe sole 12 and is tied around the top portion 11 by the shoe lace 13. The sole 12 extends from the toe portion 15 to the heel portion 17 which may be rigid or semi-rigid in construction. The bottom or outsole 19 (see Figure 2) may be ribbed, grooved or patterned as desired. For the purposes of use in some sports, the heel may be cushioned, or rendered resilient and capable of absorbent shocks upon impact by including air ducts, air pellets or spring means between the heel and the sole. Such constructions are well known in the prior art. For the purposes of this invention, in the embodiment shown in Figures 1-3, the shoe is provided with an external lateral forefoot [wedge member] stabilizer 21 which is formed as an integral part of the shoe conformally contouring the lateral forefoot portion of the shoe. The lateral forefoot [wedge] stabilizer 21 is preferably about 1/8 to about 1/4 inch thick and is [tapered from medial to lateral from the middle of the forefoot] attached to the edge of the sole, with its thickness increasing gradually toward the lateral side where it is at its greatest thickness. The lateral forefoot [wedge] stabilizer 21 extends a distance of from about 2 to about 4 inches, from the middle toward the toe portion 15, thus extending from the 5th toe proximal to the 5th metatarsal base. The lateral forefoot [wedge] stabilizer 21 may be made of the same material used in forming the shoes, generally hard rubber, neoprene or a plastic



In the Specification:

Paragraph beginning at page 6, line 1, has been amended as follows:

The lateral heel stabilizer 113 is a piece of rubber or plastic (EVA) which is about 2 to 3 inches wide, about 2-3 inches high (depending on the height of the shoe) and is about 1/8 to 1/4 inch thick. The lateral heel stabilizer 113 is [conformably] attached to [the lateral heel counter and encompasses substantially the entire heel counter from the distal end 113A to the proximal end 113B] the rear exterior of the shoe above the heel 107 extending from the proximal end 113B to the distal end 113A near the top of the shoe, thus adding firm support to the lateral heel and reducing lateral ankle sprains experienced in sports such as basketball and tennis. It also provides added stability and push-off power in such activity as weight lifting.



In the Specification:

Paragraph beginning at page 6, line 9, has been amended as follows:

The athletic shoe 100 also comprises a medial heel wedge 115, which may be ribbed, grooved or patterned as desired, and it is incorporated into the heel structure and/or affixed thereto at about 2 to 5 degrees relative to the ground. As shown in Figure 5, the wedge 115 spans the entire length and approximately ½ of the width of the heel with the highest part of the wedge being at the medial inner heel. Thus, the rear of the athletic shoe will have a mild tilt outward, i.e., away from the body. The incorporation of the medial heel wedge in the athletic shoe as aforesaid limits the pronation and inversion of the foot as the heel strikes the ground. It is a matter of common experience that most overuse syndrome, including plantar fasciitis, posterior tibial medial tendonitis, knee and lower back pain are due to, or exacerbated by over pronation or an exaggerated inward rolling of the foot. By providing a medial heel wedge as herein described, pronation will be effectively reduced, foot and leg fatigue will be alleviated and foot stability is increased, all of which contribute to dynamic stability during athletic performance.



In view of the foregoing Response, a favorable action is requested on this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James W. Badie', is written over a horizontal line.

James W. Badie, Reg. No. 20,968
Attorney for Applicants
Stoll, Miskin, Hoffman & Badie
The Empire State Building
350 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6110
New York, New York 10118
Telephone: (212) 244-5632

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